

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely operating a medical diagnostic imaging system, said method comprising:

moving a trackball in a remote handheld trackball device;

translating rotational movement of said trackball to a direct functional command for execution at said medical diagnostic imaging system;

remotely transmitting said direct functional command based on rotational movement of said trackball in the remote handheld trackball device to said medical diagnostic imaging system from said remote handheld trackball device;

remotely receiving in said remote handheld track ball device feedback from said medical diagnostic imaging system; and

remotely executing said direct functional command at said medical diagnostic imaging system, wherein said direct functional command comprises directly changing a function of said medical diagnostic imaging system based on said direct functional command.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said remote transmitting step further comprises wireless transmission of said command to said imaging system.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising remote transmitting said command based on depressing said trackball.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said trackball in said remote handheld trackball device comprises a wheel on a mousing device.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising controlling said imaging system using at least one of a voice command, a foot switch, and a remote keypad.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising pressing a button on said remote handheld trackball device to trigger an imaging system command.

7. (Currently Amended) A remote handheld trackball device for controlling a medical diagnostic imaging system, said device comprising:

a trackball in said remote handheld trackball device for directly controlling a function of said medical diagnostic imaging system based on rotational motion of said trackball;

a transmitter for remotely transmitting a direct functional command to said medical diagnostic imaging system from said remote handheld trackball device based on said rotational motion of said trackball, said direct functional command generated through translation of said rotational motion of said trackball for execution at said medical diagnostic imaging system;

a receiver for receiving feedback from said medical diagnostic imaging system; and

a housing for holding said trackball and said transmitter.

8. (Original) The device of claim 7, further comprising a button for controlling an imaging system function.

9. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 7, wherein said remote handheld trackball device works with voice commands to control said imaging system.

10. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 7, wherein said trackball in said remote handheld trackball device comprises a wheel on a mousing device.

11. (Original) The device of claim 7, wherein said device works with at least one of a voice command, a foot switch, and a remote keypad to control said imaging system.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 7, wherein said remote handheld trackball device comprises a wireless handheld trackball device.

13. (Currently Amended) A remote mousing device for operating a medical diagnostic imaging system, said remote mousing device comprising:

a moveable portion for operating said medical diagnostic imaging system based on rotational motion of said moveable portion in said remote mousing device;

a transmitter in said remote mousing device for remotely transmitting a direct functional command to said medical diagnostic imaging system based on said rotational movement of said moveable portion, said direct functional command generated through translation of said rotational motion of said moveable portion for execution at said medical diagnostic imaging system; and

a receiver for receiving feedback from said medical diagnostic imaging system.

14. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, wherein said moveable portion comprises at least one of a trackball, a wheel, and a joystick.

15. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, further comprising an additional input receptor.

16. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 15, wherein said additional input receptor comprises at least one of a button, a switch, and a touch screen.

17. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, wherein said remote mousing device works with at least one of a voice command, a foot switch, and a remote keypad to control said imaging system.

18. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, wherein said remote mousing device comprises a wireless mousing device.

19. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, wherein said remote mousing device comprises a remote handheld mousing device.

20. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, further comprising a fastener for affixing said remote mousing device to at least one of an operator and a subject being imaged.

21. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 13, wherein said remote mousing device is integrated with an instrument.

22. (Previously Presented) The remote mousing device of claim 21, wherein said instrument comprises at least one of an imaging instrument and a medical instrument.